

## BLACK MOUNTAIN COLLEGE CONCERT

On March 11, 1787, between the finished  
"Figaro" and the not yet begun "Don Giovanni" WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART  
(1756-1791) wrote down an unusual piece for  
piano, unusual in its content as in its  
form, the RONDO IN A MINOR FOR PIANO  
(No 511 in Ritter von Koechel's complete  
catalogue of Mozart's works)  
played by Frederic Cohen

From the tragic mood of this rondo's  
last page it is a short way to the

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN (1770-1827) of the year 1802. Following the advice  
of his physician Dr. Schmidt to spare  
his hearing as much as possible  
Beethoven moved to the village of  
Heiligenstadt, near Vienna. Ferdinand  
Ries, his piano pupil during 1802 reports:  
"He lived much in the country whither I  
went often to take a lesson from him.  
At times, after breakfast he would say  
"Let us take a short walk." We went and  
frequently did not return till 3 or 4  
o'clock, after having made some meal in  
some village. On one of these wanderings  
Beethoven gave me the first striking  
proof of his loss of hearing, concern-  
ing which St. von Breuning had already  
spoken to me. I called his attention  
to a shepherd who was piping very agreeably  
in the woods on a flute made of a twig  
of elder. For half an hour Beethoven  
could hear nothing, and though I assured  
him that it was the same with me (which  
was not the case), he became extremely  
quiet and morose. When occasionally he  
seemed to be merry it was generally to  
the extreme of boisterousness; but this  
happened seldom."

At the end of this country stay in the  
dark hour of realization that his af-  
fliction was incurable Beethoven  
wrote his will--

read by Kenneth Kurtz

### THE HEILIGENSTAEDTER TESTAMENT

Notwithstanding this deep crisis  
Beethoven composed during 1802 among  
other works his second symphony, the  
Erotica variations for piano, three  
piano sonatas op. 31 and three piano  
and violin sonatas op. 30, dedicated  
to Csar Alexander I of Russia, the  
second of which concludes this program.